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MAGOWA

(170) SECOND LEAD CIA-LETTER
 BY JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
 AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, JULY 28 (AP)-CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS TELEPHONED A QUICK APOLOGY TO SEN. J. W. FULBRIGHT TODAY FOR A LETTER DECLARING "PLEASURE" AT A NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL CRITICAL OF FULBRIGHT.

HELMS' LETTER KICKED UP A STORM OF PROTEST, CRITICISM, AND EXPRESSIONS OF SURPRISE IN THE SENATE THIS AFTERNOON.

HELMS, IT WAS LEARNED TONIGHT, TELEPHONED FULBRIGHT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, SAID HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE LETTER AND TOLD THE SENATOR IN SUBSTANCE "IT WAS A MISTAKE AND I REGRET IT."

FULBRIGHT, WHO JOINED IN THE SENATE DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT, CONFIRMED THE APOLOGY TONIGHT.

THE ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT SAID THE CIA HEAD TOLD HIM "HE WAS SORRY AND REGRETTED THE LETTER AND THAT HE DIDN'T REALLY FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT ME" AS THE LETTER SAID.

HIS OWN REACTION, FULBRIGHT SAID, WAS THAT "I WAS GLAD TO HEAR THAT." OTHERWISE, HE SAID, THE "INCIDENT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF AND I HAVE NO OTHER COMMENT ON THE MATTER."

HELMS IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE FULBRIGHT'S COMMITTEE TOMORROW.

THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ASKED HELMS TO APPEAR BEFORE IT TOMORROW MORNING AND HE ACCEPTED THE REQUEST.

SEN. EUGENE J. MCCARTHY, D-MINN., CALLED THE ATTENTION OF THE SENATE TO THE EDITORIAL AND THE LETTER WHICH THE PAPER PUBLISHED OVER HELMS' NAME.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSFIE

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OVER HELMS' NAME.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD OF MONTANA CALLED IT "A MOST SERIOUS MATTER" AND EXPRESSED HOPE ALL SENATORS "WOULD TAKE COGNIZANCE OF IT."

THE EDITORIAL WAS TITLED "BRICKBATS FOR FULBRIGHT" AND EALT WITH THE SENATE'S SIDETRACKING OF AN EFFORT BY FULBRIGHT TO GAIN A ROLE FOR THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IN THE SUPERVISION OF THE CIA.

THE SUPERSECRET AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES NOW ARE OVERSEEN IN THE SENATE ONLY BY A SPECIAL COMMITTEE MADE UP OF SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES.

THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THE EDITORIAL READ: "SEN. J.W. FULBRIGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN HIS COME-UPPANCE BY THE SENATE."

THE LETTER OVER HELMS' NAME, SAID "I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW OF MY PLEASURE IN READING THE EDITORIAL 'BRICKBATS FOR FULBRIGHT' IN THE GLOBE DEMOCRAT OF JULY 8.

"IT REFLECTS SO WELL YOUR PAPER'S POLICY OF 'PRINTING THE NEWS IMPARTIALLY, SUPPORTING WHAT IT BELIEVES TO BE RIGHT AND OPPOSING WHAT IT BELIEVES TO BE WRONG, WITHOUT REGARD TO PARTY POLITICS.'"

FULBRIGHT WONDERED IF HELMS "MISCONSTRUED THIS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE" AS REMOVING RESTRAINTS FROM THE CIA DIRECTOR IN DEALING WITH DOMESTIC MATTERS.

FULBRIGHT CALLED IO

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